

Pomeroy Conservation District

Other Accomplishments



The district has worked with equipment dealers to introduce the latest technology such as GPS auto-steer to the local farmers. An upcoming grant from Ecology may provide an auto-steer unit to the district to demonstrate the concept to those interested farmers by trying before buying this latest technology.

The district is also interested in obtaining and using the Green-seeker technology on weed sprayers that will cut the amount of herbicides applied to control weeds and regrowth. With the adoption of more direct seeding practices and the use of chemical fallow, these two technology practices may soon be common practices in the Pomeroy CD.

2008 Feature Accomplishment

Riparian Restoration

Resource Challenge: The number of livestock producers in the county has led to water quality issues from feeding operations along a number of streams in the Pomeroy CD.



Riparian Restoration

Project Summary and Results:

The Riparian Restoration program is focused on addressing winter feeding and cattle grazing operations that were not eligible under the CREP and other water quality grants. The program assists livestock owners in implementing best management practices (BMPs) that improve riparian health and protect water quality. Primarily, BMPs include riparian fencing, riparian planting, and off-stream watering at locations where water quality issues exist. This effort helped to implement BMPs where federal cost-share programs were not reasonable and, in some cases, helped to supplement these programs where necessary.

This program is being used to improve the water quality of several of the streams in Garfield County. The program involves funding from several different sources and is a continuing effort to improve the riparian health along the streams. The water quality in Pataha, Deadman, Alpowa, and Meadow Creeks in Garfield County is impacted by several sources of non-point pollution. Monitoring data indicates that these streams, although improving, still may fail state water quality standards for multiple parameters.

Key Project Partners:

Key partners in this program have been the WA State Department of Ecology, Bonneville Power Administration, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Conservation Commission through its Implementation and Livestock grants program.

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More Work To Do

The district's False Indigo Project on Meadow Creek and Deadman Creek has proven to be a long-term endeavor. Additional funding will be needed over a longer period of time, as will a commitment from the landowners to adopt a long term maintenance schedule. More work is necessary to control crop and rangeland erosion and noxious weeds that have invaded the district over the last several years.